

February Mixed Waste Subgroup Highlights

The Hanford STCG Mixed Waste (MW) Subgroup met on February 11, 1999 in the EESB Cayuse Room. Greg Berlin reviewed the changes made to the Science and Technology (S&T) needs form for this year's effort. The process will start earlier this year and an effort is being made to keep the needs updated on a year-round basis. A letter was sent to all the DOE-AMs from John Wagoner detailing the needs schedule for this year and explaining how the process is to work. A copy of this letter will be sent to all subgroup members. Larbi Bounini and Norm Olson are working with the projects on needs write-ups and this will be finished at the end of March. The MW Subgroup will renew the needs in the April 15 to May 30 timeframe. The STCG Management Council will then concur on the needs in the June 1 to July 21 period. The report on Hanford S&T needs for FY2000 is to be published on August 30. This schedule was distributed to all subgroup members. The changes to the schedule this year were made to get the needs into the budget cycle and match up with the PBS in order to get funding. Greg reviewed the guidance that was given out by FDH to all the subcontractors involved. One difference from last years S&T needs effort is that PNNL will help support the identification of science needs by FDH. Also this year, each need will have three endorsement signatures: one from FDH, one from the subcontractor, and one from DOE. The S&T needs statement write-ups will also have some new fields added to the form. These changes came from DOE-HQ and include a priority rating based on ACPC, a choice of need category the need fits into, and a place where graphics, photos, etc. can be added to the need. An example of a completed form in the new format was also shown. All subgroup members will receive copies of these new instructions. Greg also distributed a copy of the distribution list for the last needs statement report and asked the subgroup members to get back to him with any changes to the list for this years needs statement.

Larbi Bounini stated that most of the MW needs this year will be dealing with RH waste. The major driver for this is the fact that the WIPP allotment for Hanford's RH waste is a lot smaller than the amount we have to dispose of now. This is causing us to examine various ways to reduce the volume of RH waste to be shipped to WIPP.

Gary Ballew gave an update on the direct chemical oxidation (DCO) technology. This technology is in response to Hanford MW need #6 to treat CH-TRU, PCB contaminated waste oil. LLNL received \$30K to do a treatability study of DCO. The results showed that all the organics in the waste had to be destroyed and that in doing so would create a large secondary waste stream. Gary said he would draft a letter to be sent to the MWFA stating that it is impractical to use DCO to meet our needs given the LLNL results.

The subgroup endorsed the new need for the certification of the Boxed Waste Assay System at WRAP. Ellen Dagan will present this need at the February 17 STCG Management Council meeting for their endorsement. At the present time the BWAS equipment is in place but no waste can be sent to WIPP until the certification process is done.

In response to our need #4 for remote decontamination of RH TRU waste, three samples will be sent to Lasertronics in California. At Lasertronics the samples will have paint removed by laser and this process will be videotaped. The samples are three shapes and two types of paint. This demo is to be done at the end of March.

The demonstration of new concrete to encapsulate the high salt wastes from the ETF (Need #20) is also being planned. Funding from the MWFA of \$29K is to be in the February Financial Plan. The waste samples are to be sent to Tectonics in March to start the demo.

Norm Olson, Larbi Bounini, and Mark French will be attending the MWFA mid-year review in Idaho Falls on February 23-25. Each of them will be taking part in panels dealing with MW issues important to the DOE-Complex.

The next MW Subgroup Meeting will be on March 11 at 1pm in the EESB Stampede Room

Mixed Waste Subgroup Meeting Attendees - 2/11/98

Gary Ballew	PRGC	946-0611
Greg Berlin	FDH-TM	372-4352
Larbi Bounini	WMH	376-4650
Ellen Dagan	DOE	376-3811
Craig Richins	DOE-STP	372-4020
Wayne Ross	PNNL	372-4684
Steve Weakley	PNNL	372-4275